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Project Title - Slums in Prayagraj

University Roll No.:- 26451936
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SLUMS IN PRAYGRAJ SUBMITTED BY – PUSHKAR KUMAR SUMAN

SLUMS

University of Allahabad

MAY 20, 2026

TITLE OF THE PROJECT

SLUMS IN PRAYAGRAJ

PROFORMA FOR APPROVAL OF M.A. PROJECT PROPOSAL

(Dissertation's Title and Guide Details)

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Project Registration No.

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C.M.P Degree College

Prayagraj

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Signature of the Student Signature of the Guide

Date: Date:

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Approved Diassertation	**Not Approved**	**Sign. of the Guide**

PROJECT TRAINEE LETTER

This is to Certify that Mr. **Pushkar Kumar Suman** Whose Enrolment number is **I2121100** & Roll No. **is 26451936** a **M.A. (Geography)** final Year Student of **C M P Degree College** affiliated to **Allahabad University** under Regular mode and has to do a project in his final Year Starting from December session. This Project is compulsory for **M.A.** practical. He has to do a project for 1 to 2 Week in the development organization under the supervision of a guide Preferable from same Organization During his course, The Student has gone through several theoretical paper such as Data Structure, Ground Supervision and Ground Realityof the core problems of Slums,Government data and their role to helping iniciatives.

Looking forward for your positive response.

Name of the Guide

C M P Degree College

Prayagraj

Stamp with Date

Guide Certificate

This is certified that **Pushkar Kumar Suman** beaning University Roll No. **26451936** & University Enrollment No.- **I2121100** of Slums in Prayagraj has complete his project Report under my supervision and guidance, During the project work. He seemed to be dedicated motivated and sincere student.

His Project may be accepted for evaluation and examination. I wish her success in her future endeavors.

Uttara Singh

C M P Degree College

Prayagraj

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1. Introduction

Slums are an important urban phenomena that found in almost every developing cities of India. These are the regions that characterized by overcrowded housing, too much population, poor sanitation, inadequate healthcare and infrastructure, unemployment, poverty and lack of basic facilities. The rapid growth of urban population, migration from rural areas, industrialization and shortage of affordable housing and contribute significantly to the development of slum settlements. Slums also reflect the socio-economic disparities and their role that affects the planning of urban areas.

A slum is a densely populated urban settlement characterized by inadequate housing, poor living conditions, and lack of basic civic amenities. According to UN-Habitat, slums are areas where residents suffer from one or more deprivations such as unsafe or temporary housing structures, overcrowding, limited access to clean drinking water, absence of proper sanitation and drainage, and insecure land tenure. These settlements usually develop due to rapid urbanization, poverty, unemployment, and insufficient urban planning. Slums often reflect social and economic inequalities within cities, where marginalized populations are forced to live in unhealthy and vulnerable environments with limited access to education, healthcare, and other essential services.

Key elements :-

A place is called a slum if it has:

Poor quality housing
Overcrowding
Lack of clean water
No proper sanitation/toilets
No legal ownership

Urbanization is one of the most significant processes of modern development, but it has also led to the rapid growth of slums in manycities. A slum is an unplanned and densely populated settlement characterized by inadequate housing, poor sanitation, lack of basic services, and low living standards. In developing countries like India, slums have become an integral part of urban landscapes due to increasing migration, poverty, and insufficient urban planning.

Prayagraj, a major cultural and administrative city of Uttar Pradesh, has experienced rapid urban expansion over the past few decades. This growth has attracted a large number of migrants from rural areas in search of employment and better opportunities. However, due to the shortage of affordable housing and limited infrastructure, a significant portion of this population is forced to live in slum areas.

Slums in Prayagraj are mainly concentrated along riverbanks, railway lines, drainage channels, and in the peripheral zones of the city. These areas are often environmentally vulnerable and lack essential services such as clean drinking water, sanitation, healthcare, and education. Thousands of people migrate to Prayagraj every year in search of employment, education, and better living opportunities. As a result, the residents face multiple socio-economic and health-related challenges.

The study of slums in Prayagraj is important to understand the spatial distribution, demographic characteristics, and living conditions of the urban poor. It also helps in identifying the gaps in urban planning and governance. By analyzing these aspects, effective policies and sustainable solutions can be developed to improve the quality of life of slum dwellers and promote inclusive urban development.

Major slum areas of Prayagraj include **Kareli, Naini, Jhunsi, Daraganj, Rambagh, Rajrooppur, and parts of the old city**. These settlements generally suffer from overcrowding, poor housing conditions, lack of clean drinking water, inadequate healthcare, open drainage, and environmental pollution. Most slum dwellers are engaged in informal occupations such as daily wage labour, domestic work, street vending, and rickshaw pulling.

The growth of these slums is not about people living in these areas it is also a sign of bigger problems with the way cities are developed. In Prayagraj slums usually appear on land where people from rural areas come to find work and build homes without permission. These homes do not have air, strong buildings or basic things like water and sewage systems. These areas are often seen as trouble spots for city development. They make the city a dirtier and worse place to live. Over time these slums have become a part of the city even if they are not treated equally and more than 25% of the slums in Prayagraj have been around for, over 75 years, which shows that they are not going away. The socio-economic condition of slum residents remains weak due to poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, and insufficient government services.

Growth of Slum Population (Time-wise Data)

Year	Slum Population	% of City Population
2001	**1,26,646**	**~13%**
2005 (survey)	**3,63,550**	**~30%**
2011	**4,70,467**	**~35%**

Slum population increased rapidly due to migration and urban expansion.

According to urban studies, Prayagraj contains nearly 185 slum settlements with a population of more than 4.7 lakh people. The rapid increase in slum population has created serious challenges related to sanitation, health, housing, education, transportation, and urban infrastructure. Slum areas are often located in environmentally sensitive and unsafe regions, making residents vulnerable to floods, diseases, and pollution.The slum regions gave the most adverse experience and every day struggles for the survival of life in urban areas.

The city of Prayagraj is getting ready for the 2025 Maha Kumbh. It is also planning for the future. The way things are done in Prayagraj has changed from removing slums to helping people who live in these areas. The government has started projects like the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Phase II. This project is building than 1,000 affordable flats in areas like Khuldabad and Peepal Gaon. The goal is to help people who live in the city become a part of it.

This report looks at how people live in these areas and the problems they face. It also looks at how the government's trying to make Prayagraj a better city, for everyone, which they call a "Smart City". The report checks how the governments plans affect the people who live in these areas and how these plans can help them. The city of Prayagraj wants to make sure that everyone is included and has a place to live. The Prayagraj city is working hard to make this happen.

The study of slums in Prayagraj is important for understanding urban poverty, spatial inequality, migration patterns, and problems of unplanned urban growth. It also highlights the need for sustainable urban development, proper planning, affordable housing, sanitation improvement, employment generation, and effective government policies for improving the living conditions of slum dwellers.

2. Study Area : Prayagraj

Prayagraj is an important urban centre because of its cultural significance, educational institutions, transportation facilities, administrative functions, and commercial activities. Due to rapid urbanization and population growth, the city has expanded significantly in recent decades. Migration from nearby rural areas and smaller towns has increased the pressure on housing and urban infrastructure, leading to the development of slum settlements in different parts of the city.

The spatial distribution of slums in Prayagraj is governed by the principles of land availability and proximity to labor markets. Slums are relatively evenly dispersed across both core and fringe areas, although their physical characteristics vary depending on their location. Approximately 57% of the city's 185 recognized slums are located in the core urban areas, where they are integrated into the dense fabric of older neighborhoods like Kydganj and Gaughat. The remaining 43% are situated in the fringe areas, often developing on the periphery of planned residential zones or industrial pockets.

A critical aspect of the geography of slums in Prayagraj is their proximity to hazardous ecological features. Approximately 62% to 64% of slums are located along nallahs (drains) and other water bodies. This positioning makes these communities exceptionally vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly flooding during the monsoon months of August and September. Slums in the Gaughat lower region, near the old Yamuna bridge, are flooded annually, further aggravating the already grim socio-economic conditions of the residents. The placement of these settlements alongside railway lines (11-12%) and major transport alignments (8%) also exposes residents to high levels of noise and air pollution, as well as the risk of industrial accidents.

There are various regions in Prayagraj that gave the huge distribution in the development of slums in the perifery of the Cities, Railway stations, Industrial regions and the banks of the rivers.

Now we have to focus on some of the important epicentre of slums that gave the full description of slums of Prayagraj also gave the clear understanding of important slums that contribute major problems for the development of urban areas.

The core areas of study in the slums regions of Prayagraj are as follows :-

Kareli Area
Teliarganj
Salori
Daraganj (Riverbank Slums)
Rambagh / Railway Area

Now write one-by-one description of the following regions:-

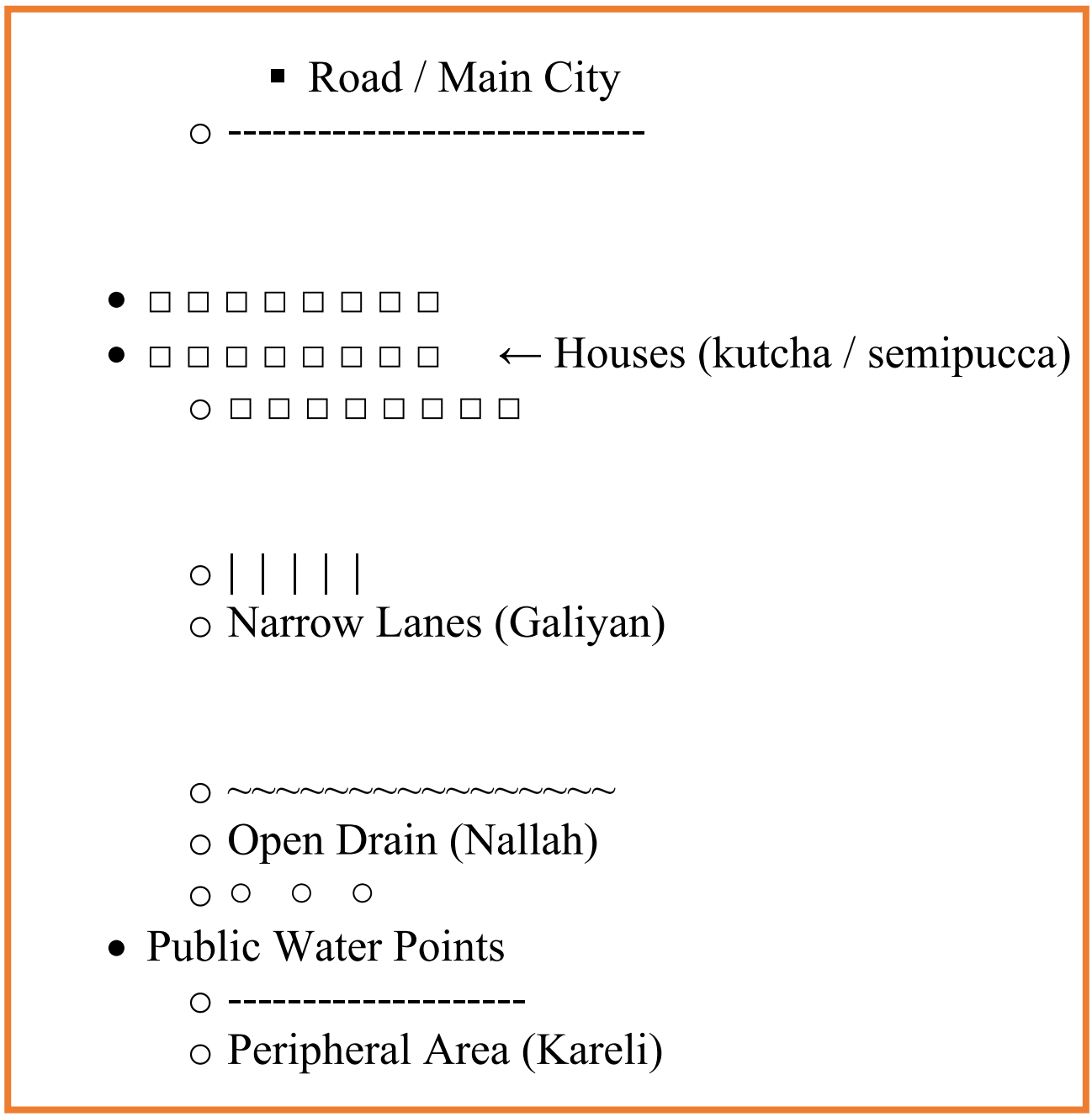
A. Kareli Area

Kareli is one of the most prominent slum-dominated areas in Prayagraj, located in the south-western part of the city. It represents a typical example of a peripheral urban settlement where rapid population growth and unplanned expansion have led to the development of slum conditions. The area has attracted a large number of migrants from nearby rural regions who come in search of employment and better livelihood opportunities.

The housing conditions in Kareli slums are generally poor and unorganized. Many families live in kutcha or semi-pucca houses constructed with temporary materials such as tin sheets, plastic, bamboo, and mud. Overcrowding is a major issue, with several members of a family often sharing a single room. The layout of the settlement is unplanned, with narrow lanes and limited space for movement.

Basic amenities in Kareli are inadequate. Access to clean drinking water is limited, and many residents depend on public taps or shared sources. Sanitation facilities are insufficient, with open drains, poor waste disposal, and in some cases, open defecation still practiced. These conditions contribute to an unhealthy environment.

DIAGRAM: Structure of Kareli Slum Area :-



The diagram represents the spatial structure of Kareli slums, showing unplanned housing, poor drainage, and lack of basic facilities. The flowchart explains the process of slum formation due to migration and inadequate urban planning."

Flow Chart : Formation of Kareli Slums :-

Rural to Urban Migration

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Search for Employment

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Lack of Affordable Housing

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Settlement in Peripheral Areas (Kareli)

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Unplanned Housing Growth

↓

Slum Formation

↓

Poor Living Conditions

↓

Poverty & Health Problems

The socio-economic condition of the residents is also weak. Most people are engaged in informal occupations such as daily wage labour, rickshaw pulling, street vending, and domestic work. Income levels are low and irregular, making it difficult for families to improve their living standards. Education levels are also low, and many children drop out of school to support their families.

"In Kareli, slum settlements are mainly found in kachchi basti areas, along drainage channels, and in peripheral zones where unplanned housing and poor infrastructure are common."

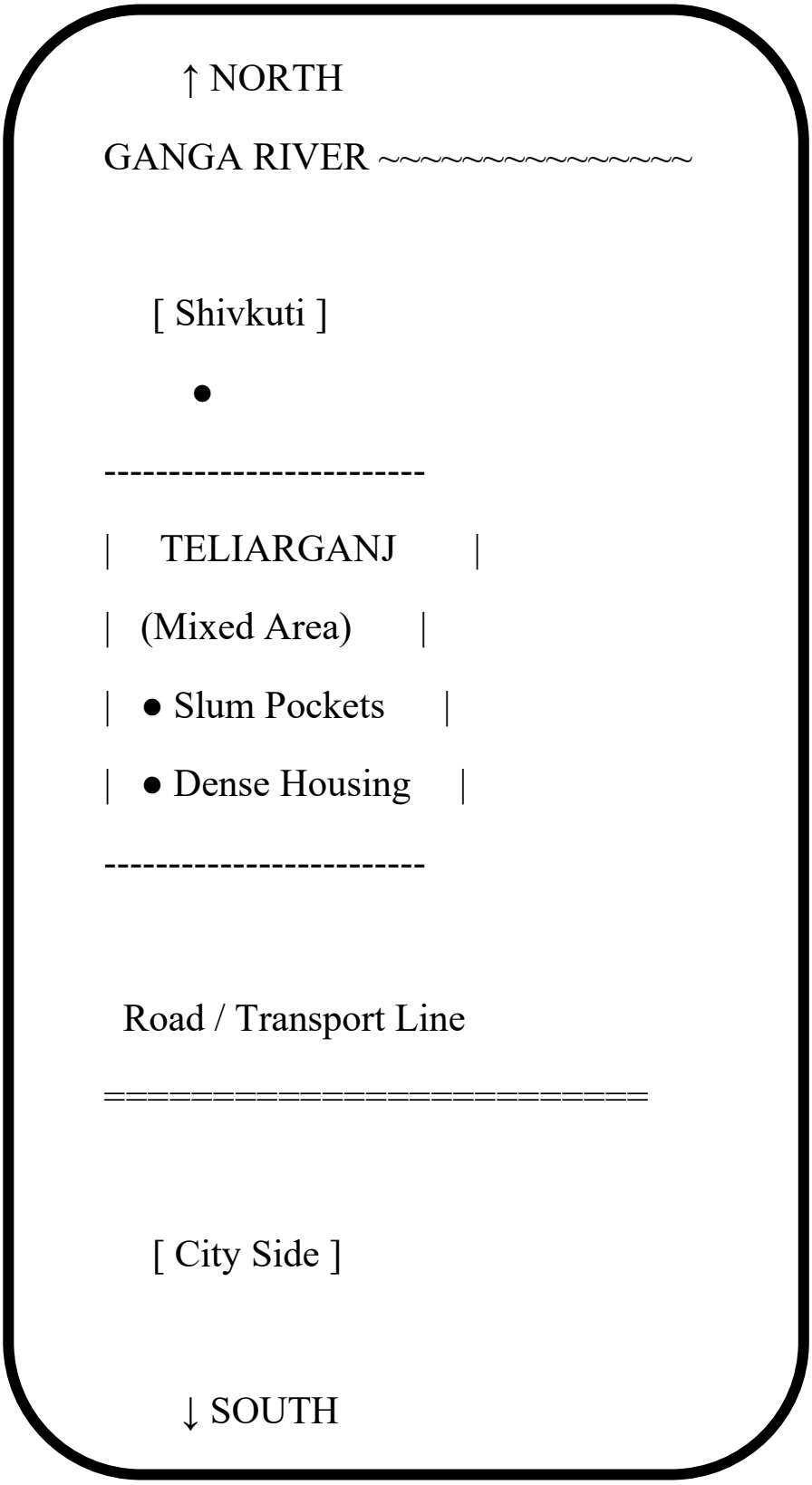
Overall, Kareli slums reflect the challenges of urban poverty, lack of planning, and inadequate infrastructure. The area highlights the urgent need for better housing, sanitation, and employment opportunities to improve the quality of life of its residents.

B. Teliarganj

Teliarganj is an important locality in Prayagraj, situated on the northern side of the city near the banks of the Ganga River. It is a mixed residential area where planned colonies exist alongside several pockets of slum and informal settlements. These slum clusters have developed mainly due to rapid urbanization, migration from rural areas, and the lack of affordable housing facilities in the city.

The slum areas in Teliarganj are generally characterized by unplanned housing structures made of temporary or semi-permanent materials such as tin sheets, bamboo, plastic, and mud. Houses are closely packed, leading to overcrowding and poor ventilation. Basic amenities like clean drinking water, proper drainage, and sanitation facilities are either insufficient or irregular. Many households depend on shared water sources and public toilets, while open drains and garbage accumulation are common features of the environment.

Diagram: Teliarganj Slum Location & Structure:-



"The diagram shows the spatial setting of Teliarganj slums near the Ganga River, while the flowchart explains their formation due to migration, population pressure, and lack of planned housing."

Flow Chart: Formation of Teliarganj Slums:-

Rural to Urban Migration

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Increase in Population

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Lack of Affordable Housing

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Settlement in Available Land (Teliarganj)

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Growth of Informal Settlements

↓

Slum Pockets

↓

Poor Housing & Overcrowding

↓

Health & Environmental Problems

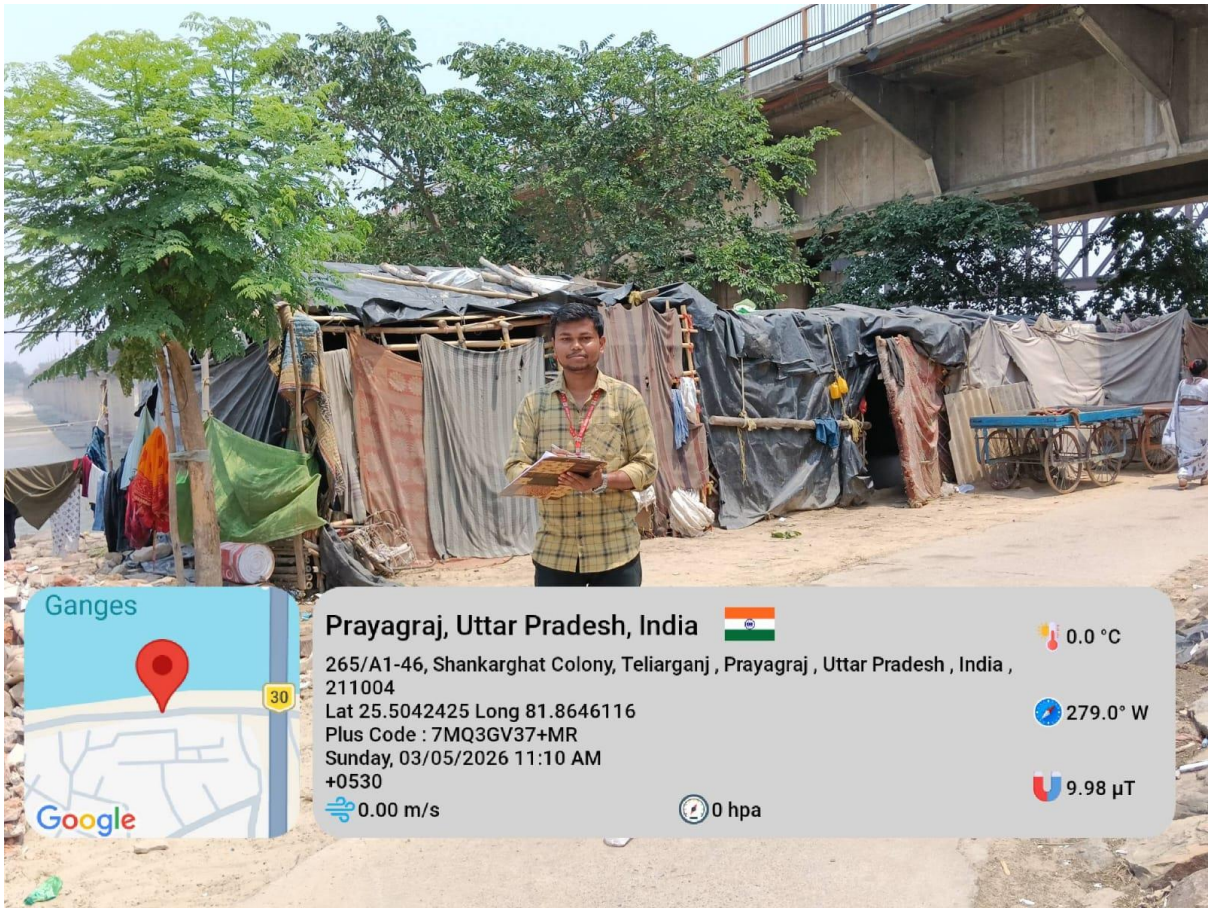
The population of these slum pockets mainly consists of low-income groups, including daily wage labourers, rickshaw pullers, domestic workers, and small vendors. Income levels are generally low and unstable, which directly affects access to education, healthcare, and overall living standards. Literacy rates are comparatively lower, and children often face interruptions in schooling due to economic pressures.

Health conditions in Teliarganj slums are a major concern. Poor sanitation, stagnant water, and pollution contribute to the spread of water-borne and respiratory diseases. Additionally, since some settlements are located close to the riverbank, they are vulnerable to seasonal flooding and environmental hazards.

The specific regions are mention below:-

- Ganga River
- Teliarganj (Mixed settlement)
- Slum pockets (mark ●)
- Road / transport line
- Shivkuti (nearby area)

In conclusion, the slum areas of Teliarganj represent a typical example of peri-urban informal settlements in Prayagraj, where socio-economic challenges, environmental risks, and inadequate infrastructure combine to create difficult living conditions for residents.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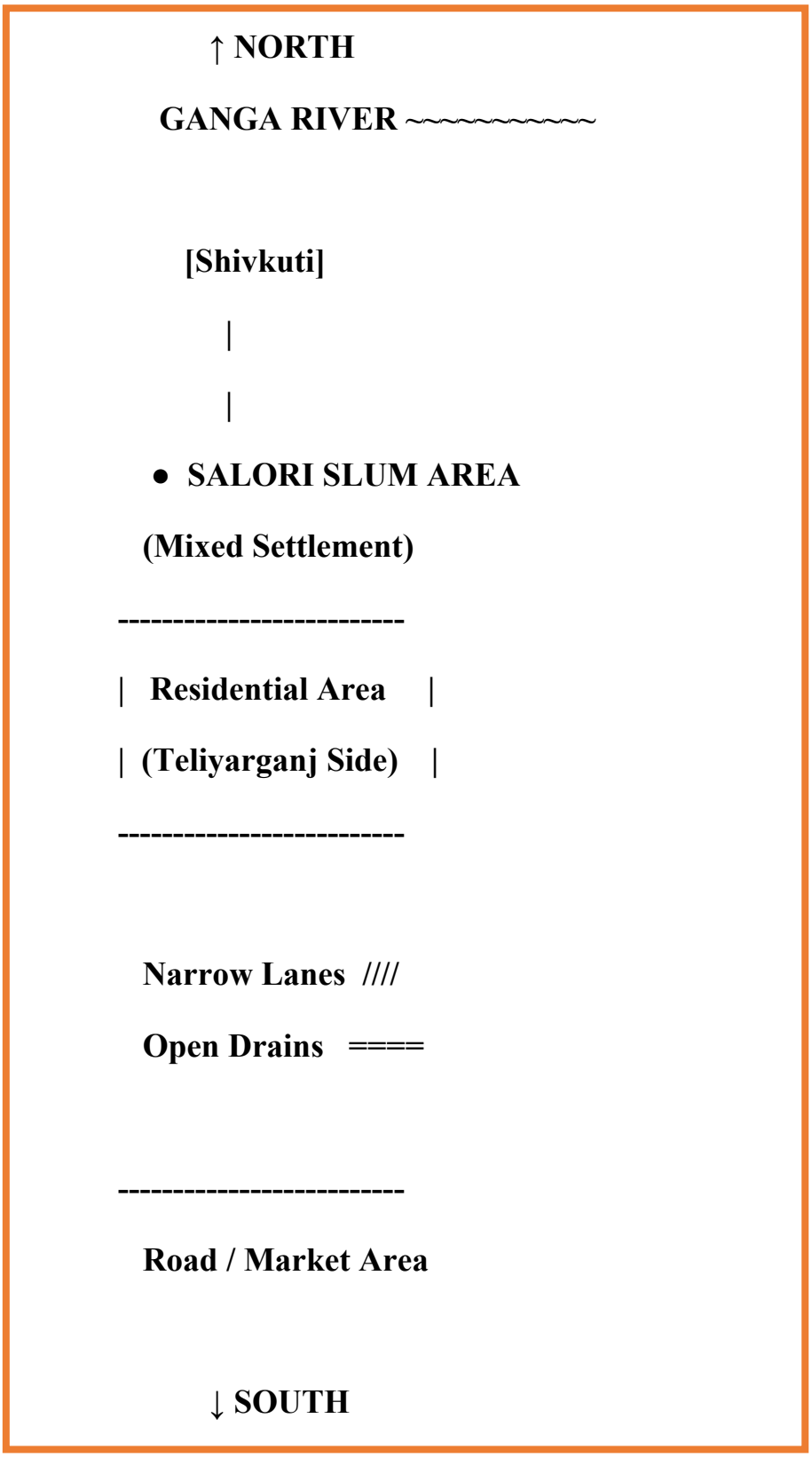
C. Salori

Salori is an important residential locality situated in the northern part of Prayagraj, near areas like Teliyarganj and the banks of the Ganga River. Although Salori is not entirely classified as a notified slum, several pockets within the area exhibit typical slum characteristics due to rapid and unplanned urban growth. The expansion of nearby educational institutions and migration of people from rural areas have contributed to the formation of informal settlements in this region.

The housing condition in Salori slum pockets is mixed in nature. While some parts have permanent (pucca) houses, a significant number of residents live in semi-pucca or kutcha houses made of temporary materials such as tin sheets, plastic, and bamboo. These settlements are often densely populated, with limited space and overcrowded living conditions. Basic infrastructure such as proper drainage, paved roads, and sanitation facilities is inadequate in many parts, leading to unhygienic surroundings.

The population in Salori slum areas mainly consists of low-income groups, including daily wage labourers, domestic workers, rickshaw pullers, and small vendors. The level of education among residents is generally low, and many children are either school dropouts or have limited access to quality education. Economic instability and lack of secure employment contribute to the persistence of poverty in the area.

DIAGRAM: Salori Slum Area Structure:-



"The diagram represents the spatial structure of Salori slum area, while the flowchart explains the process of its formation due to migration, lack of housing, and unplanned urban development."

FLOW CHART: Formation of Salori Slum:-

Rural to Urban Migration

↓

Population Increase in Salori

↓

Lack of Affordable Housing

↓

Unplanned Settlements

↓

Development of Slum Pockets

↓

Overcrowding & Poor Housing

↓

Poor Sanitation & Health Issues

↓

Low Quality of Life

Health and sanitation are major concerns in Salori slum pockets. Open drains, improper waste disposal, and lack of clean drinking water increase the risk of water-borne and respiratory diseases. During the monsoon season, waterlogging further worsens living conditions.

Overall, Salori represents a transitional urban area where informal settlements coexist with developed neighborhoods, reflecting the challenges of rapid urbanization and inadequate urban planning in Prayagraj.

Salori represents a transitional urban area where slum pockets have developed due to rapid urbanization and lack of planning. Although it has some advantages like location and connectivity, the living conditions in slum areas remain poor. Proper urban planning and government intervention are necessary to improve the quality of life.

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D. Daraganj (Riverbank)

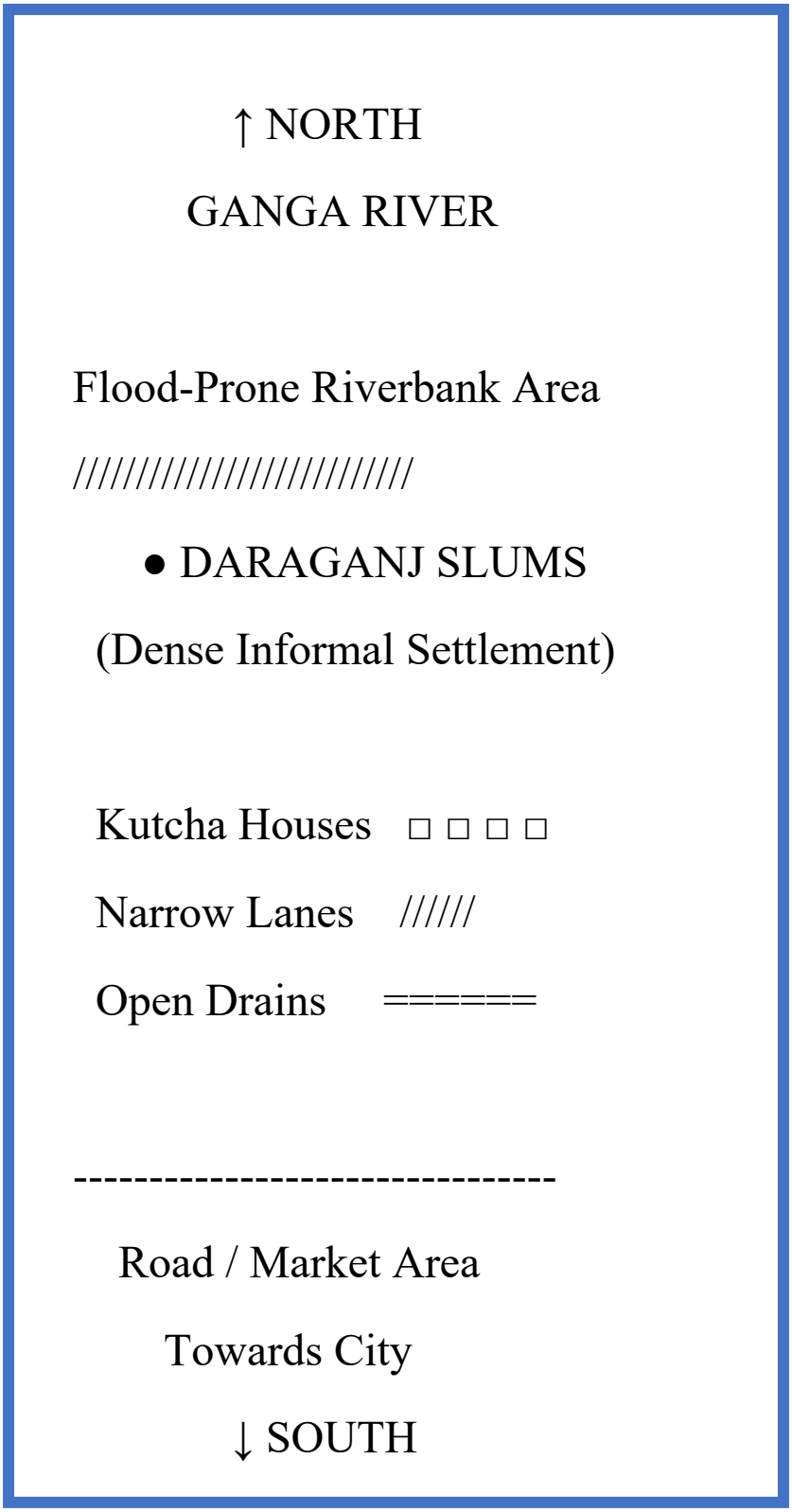
Daraganj is one of the oldest localities of Prayagraj, situated near the banks of the sacred Ganga River and close to the Sangam area. The locality is culturally and religiously important, but several riverbank settlements in Daraganj exhibit slum-like characteristics due to overcrowding, poverty, and inadequate urban infrastructure. These settlements have developed gradually because of migration, population pressure, and lack of affordable housing in the city.

The riverbank slums of Daraganj are mainly occupied by low-income families, migrant labourers, boatmen, street vendors, domestic workers, and informal sector employees. Many residents depend on religious tourism and small-scale economic activities for their livelihood. The economic condition of most households is weak, and employment opportunities are generally irregular and seasonal in nature.

Housing conditions in the area are poor and congested. Many families live in kutcha or semi-pucca houses made of temporary materials such as tin sheets, bamboo, plastic, and unfinished bricks. Narrow lanes, overcrowded rooms, and lack of proper ventilation are common features of these settlements. Basic civic facilities such as drainage, sanitation, waste disposal,

and clean drinking water are insufficient in several parts of the slum area.

DIAGRAM: Daraganj Riverbank Slums (Prayagraj)



FLOW CHART: Formation of Daraganj Riverbank Slums :-

Migration to Prayagraj

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Search for Cheap Living Space

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Settlement Near Riverbank

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Unplanned Housing Development

↓

Formation of Riverbank Slums

↓

Overcrowding & Poor Sanitation

↓

Flood Risk & Environmental Problems

↓

Health and Economic Challenges

The flood plains of Daraganj are highly vulnerable during monsoon months.

Major Problems:

- Seasonal flooding
- Waterlogging
- Soil erosion
- Damage to houses and property
- Displacement of residents

Flood water often enters residential areas, affecting daily life and sanitation.

The environmental condition of Daraganj riverbank slums is highly vulnerable. Being located near the river, these settlements are frequently affected by flooding and waterlogging during the monsoon season. Open drains, garbage accumulation, and polluted water create serious health risks for residents. Water-borne diseases, skin infections, and respiratory problems are common among the population.

Despite these challenges, the people of Daraganj maintain strong social and cultural connections. Overall, the Daraganj riverbank slums reflect the combined impact of urban poverty, environmental vulnerability, and unplanned urban development in Prayagraj.

E. Rambagh / Railway Area

The Rambagh railway area is an important transport and commercial zone in Prayagraj. Located near the old railway corridor and major market areas, the locality has experienced rapid population growth due to migration and urban expansion. Around the railway tracks and nearby vacant lands, several informal settlements and slum pockets have developed over time. These settlements are mainly occupied by economically weaker sections of society who migrate to the city in search of employment and affordable living space.

The slums in the Rambagh railway area are characterized by dense and unplanned settlements. Most houses are kutcha or semi-pucca structures made of tin sheets, plastic, bamboo, and unfinished bricks. The houses are small and overcrowded, with narrow lanes and poor ventilation. Due to lack of planned infrastructure, sanitation and drainage facilities are inadequate. Open drains, garbage accumulation, and stagnant wastewater are common environmental problems in the area.

DIAGRAM: **Rambagh Railway Area Slums**

FLOW CHART: Formation of Rambagh Railway Slums:-

Migration to Prayagraj

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Search for Employment

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Attraction Towards Railway Area

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Settlement Near Railway Tracks

↓

Unplanned Housing Development

↓

Formation of Railway Slums

↓

Overcrowding & Poor Sanitation

↓

Pollution and Health Problems

The population living in Rambagh slums mainly consists of daily wage labourers, rickshaw pullers, street vendors, coolies, and informal railway-related workers. Many families depend on temporary and low-income jobs for survival. Economic insecurity and unemployment remain major challenges for residents. The literacy level is comparatively low, and many children have limited access to quality education due to poverty and social conditions.

The railway environment also creates additional risks for slum dwellers. Houses located close to railway tracks are exposed to noise pollution, accidents, and unsafe living conditions. During the monsoon season, waterlogging and poor drainage worsen the condition of the settlements.

Despite these difficulties, the Rambagh railway slums remain important because they provide affordable shelter close to transport networks and employment opportunities. Overall, the Rambagh railway area slums reflect the impact of rapid urbanization, migration, transport-based settlement growth, and lack of proper urban planning in Prayagraj.

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3. Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study of slums regions in Prayagraj is to understand the vulnerable conditions of slums, what and how they face multiple challenges for the survival of life into that region, all the objectives are mention below:-

- To look at where the slumsre in Prayagraj.
- The study wants to find the big slum areas and see where they are located in the city.
- To see how people live in the slums.
- This means looking at the income of people living in slums what they do for work how education they have and what kind of homes they live in.
- To check the condition of homes and other facilities in the slums.
- We want to see what kind of houses people live in what the roads are like and if they have drainage, clean water and electricity.
- To understand the problems that people in the slums face.
- The study is looking at things like air and water flooding, bad sanitation and sicknesses that people in the slums get.
- To find out why the slums in Prayagraj are growing.
- This includes things like people moving to the city being poor many people, no jobs and bad city planning.
- To see how the city growing affects the slums.

4. Research Methodology

The present study on slums in Prayagraj is based on both primary and secondary sources of data. Primary data was collected through field observation, informal interviews, and surveys conducted in selected slum areas such as Kareli, Daraganj, and Jhunsi. Information regarding housing conditions, sanitation, occupation, education, and health facilities was gathered directly from slum residents. Secondary data was collected from Census reports, municipal records, research papers, journals, books, and government publications related to urban geography and slum development. Maps and spatial distribution patterns were studied with the help of geographical reports and online GIS sources. The collected data was analyzed using descriptive and comparative methods to understand the socio-economic and environmental conditions of slums in Prayagraj. The methodology helped in identifying the major causes, characteristics, and problems of slum settlements and provided a scientific basis for suggesting suitable measures for improvement and sustainable urban development.

5. Concept and Definition of Slums

A slum is a densely populated urban settlement characterized by inadequate housing, poor living conditions, and lack of basic civic amenities. According to UN-Habitat, slums are areas where residents suffer from one or more deprivations such as unsafe or temporary housing structures, overcrowding, limited access to clean drinking water, absence of proper sanitation and drainage, and insecure land tenure. These settlements usually develop due to rapid urbanization, poverty, unemployment, and insufficient urban planning. Slums often reflect social and economic inequalities within cities, where marginalized populations are forced to live in unhealthy and vulnerable environments with limited access to education, healthcare, and other essential services.

Key elements :-

A place is called a slum if it has:

Poor quality housing
Overcrowding
Lack of clean water
No proper sanitation/toilets
No legal ownership

"Slums are densely populated urban settlements characterized by inadequate housing and lack of basic services such as water, sanitation, and secure tenure."

A slum is a city area with bad housing, poor living conditions and no basic services.

* Slums have homes are overcrowded and people can't get clean water.

* They also lack toilets and drainage and people are not sure if they can stay in their homes.

* These areas grow because cities grow fast and people are poor and can't find jobs.

* The cities also don't have plans for housing.

* Slums show how unequal cities are, with some people living in unsafe areas.

* They can't get education healthcare and other important services.

* People, in slums have a life because they are poor and don't have basic needs met.

* They live in conditions and its hard for them to get better.

6. Growth of Slums in Prayagraj

The growth of slums in Prayagraj has increased rapidly during the last few decades due to urbanization, migration, population growth, and lack of planned housing facilities. Large numbers of people migrate from nearby rural areas to the city in search of employment, education, and better living opportunities. However, because of low income and unemployment, many migrants cannot afford proper houses and therefore settle in informal slum areas. As a result, slums have expanded along railway lines, riverbanks, drainage channels, industrial zones, and unused government land.

According to the 2001 Census, the slum population of Prayagraj was around **1,26,646** people living in approximately **18,558 households**, which formed about **13%** of the city's population. An Oxfam survey conducted in 2005 reported that nearly **3,63,550** people, or about **30%** of the urban population, were living in slum settlements. By 2011, the slum population increased further to about **4,70,467** people living in nearly **91,025 households** distributed across **185 slums** of the city.

Major slum areas developed in Kareli, Naini, Jhunsi, Daraganj, and Rambagh. Poor urban planning, shortage of affordable housing, and increasing population pressure have continuously accelerated the growth and expansion of slums in Prayagraj.

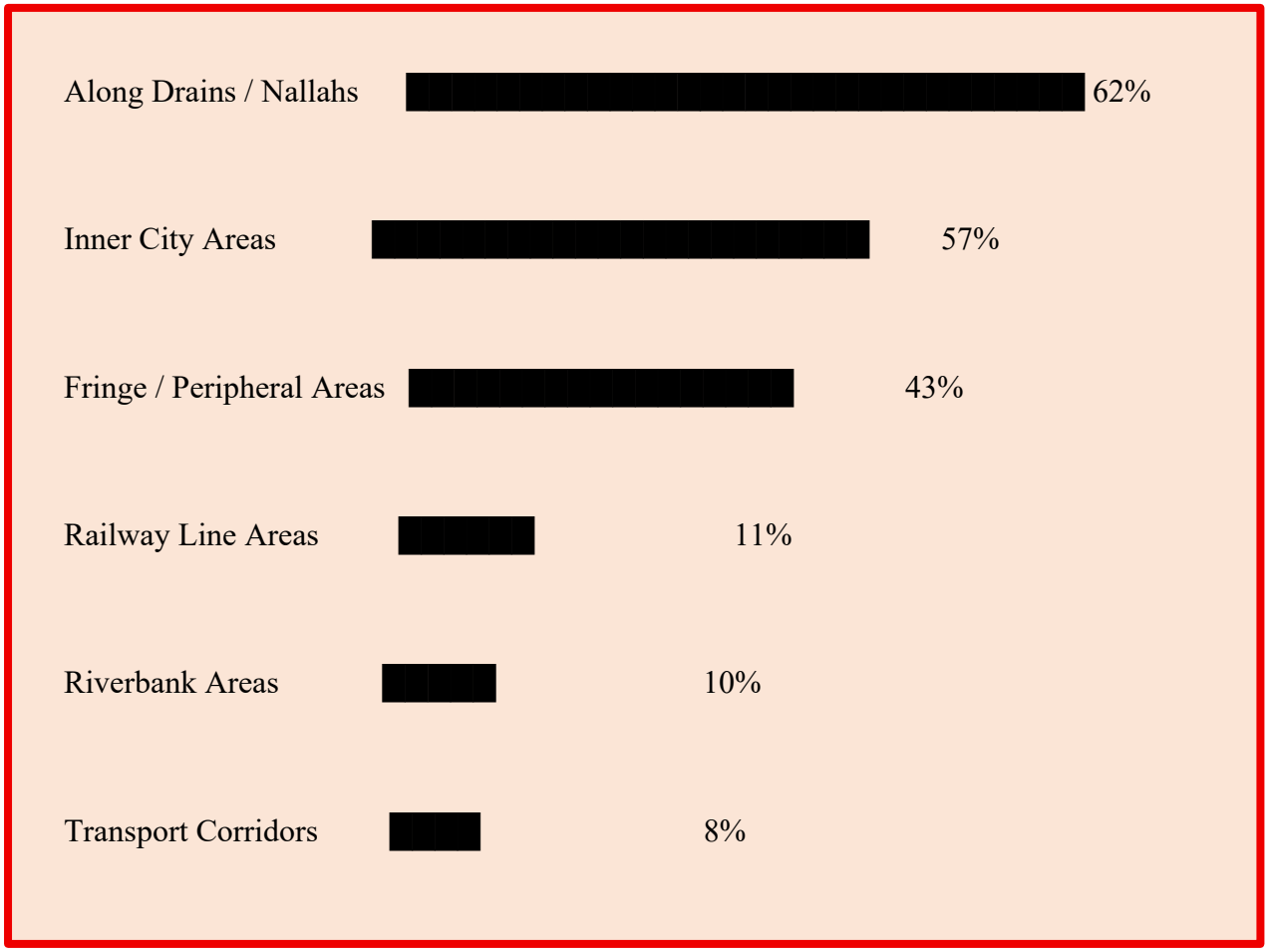
7. Spatial Distribution of Slums

The spatial distribution of slums in Prayagraj shows a clear pattern influenced by urban growth, migration, transportation routes, and availability of vacant land. Slums are mainly concentrated in the peripheral areas, riverbanks, railway corridors, drainage zones, and old congested parts of the city. These locations generally lack proper urban planning and basic civic facilities.

Major slum concentrations are found in areas such as Kareli, Naini, Jhunsi, Daraganj, Rambagh, Rajrooppur, and parts of the old city like Chowk and Katra. Peripheral areas like Kareli and Naini attract migrants because land is comparatively cheaper and close to industrial or labour-based employment opportunities. Riverbank slums near the Ganga and Yamuna rivers are highly vulnerable to floods and environmental hazards. Similarly, many slums have developed along railway lines and drainage channels due to the availability of unused land.

According to geographical studies, about **62%** of the slums in Prayagraj are located near drains and nallahs, while around **11%** are situated along railway lines and **10%** near riverbanks. Around **57%** of slums are located in the inner city, whereas **43%** are found in fringe areas. This uneven distribution reflects poverty, population pressure, and inadequate urban planning in the city.

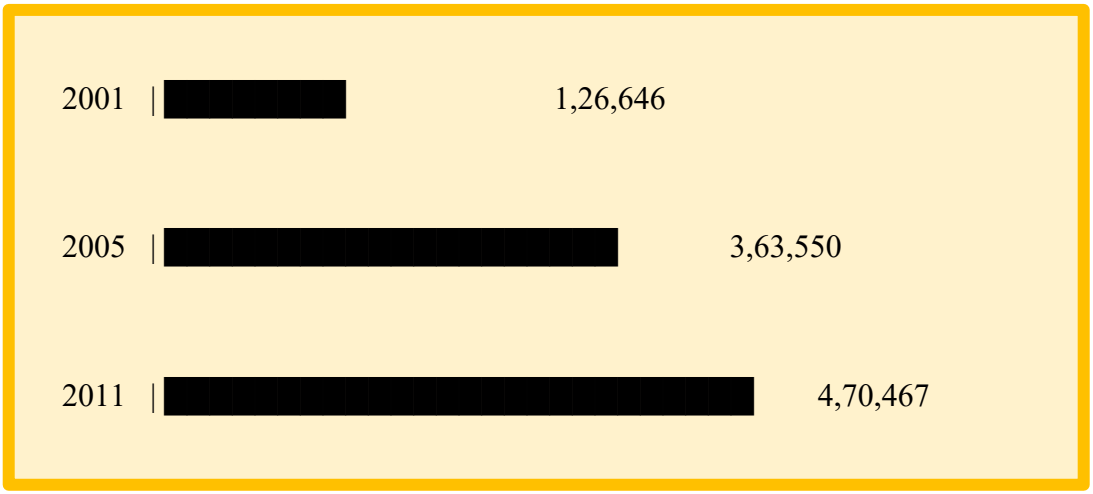
Distribution by Location Type:-



8. Slum Population and Statistical Data

The slum population of Prayagraj has increased significantly due to rapid urbanization and migration from rural areas. According to the 2001 Census, the city had about **1,26,646** slum dwellers living in nearly **18,558 households**, which accounted for around **13%** of the total urban population. Later surveys showed a rapid rise in slum population because of increasing employment opportunities and expansion of the city. An Oxfam survey conducted in 2005 estimated the slum population at nearly **3,63,550** people, which was about **30%** of the city population. By 2011, the slum population further increased to around **4,70,467** people living in approximately **91,025 households** spread across **185 slum settlements**. Studies also indicate that a large proportion of slum residents belong to economically weaker and socially backward groups. Most residents are engaged in informal occupations such as daily labour, street vending, and rickshaw pulling, with limited access to education, healthcare, sanitation, and permanent housing facilities.

Growth of Slum Population in Prayagraj:-



The graph shows a rapid increase in slum population due to urbanization and migration.

There is also distribution of slums according to social groups and caste, these are discuss below:-

Distribution of Slum Population by Social Groups

Social Group	Population	Percentage
SC	2,18,993	47%
OBC	1,20,304	26%
Others	72,430	15%
ST	14,308	3%
Other Mixed Groups	44,432	9%

Statistical Interpretation:-

- Nearly **47%** of the slum population belongs to the Scheduled Caste (SC) category.
- Around **26%** belongs to Other Backward Classes (OBC).
- Most slum residents belong to economically weaker sections of society.
- The continuous rise in slum population reflects increasing migration and shortage of affordable housing in Prayagraj.

9. Socio-Economic Conditions of Slum Dwellers

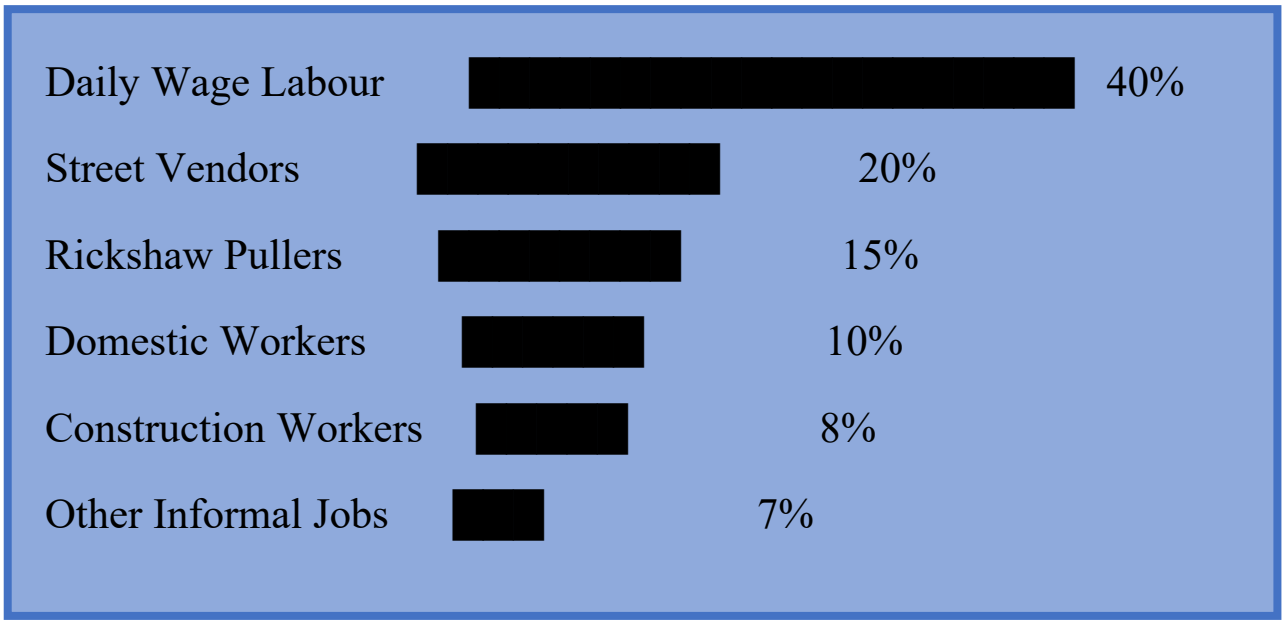
The socio-economic condition of slum dwellers in Prayagraj is generally poor and underdeveloped. Most slum residents belong to economically weaker sections of society and depend on informal occupations for their livelihood. Common occupations include daily wage labour, rickshaw pulling, street vending, domestic work, construction labour, and small-scale informal businesses. Their income is usually low, irregular, and insufficient to meet basic needs such as food, healthcare, education, and housing.

Educational conditions in slum areas are also unsatisfactory. Illiteracy and school dropout rates are high, especially among children and women. Due to poverty, many children are forced to engage in labour activities at an early age. Healthcare facilities are limited, and poor sanitation, contaminated water, overcrowding, and open drainage systems often lead to diseases such as dengue, diarrhoea, malaria, and respiratory infections.

Housing conditions are poor, with many families living in temporary structures made of tin sheets, plastic, bamboo, and mud. Most houses lack proper ventilation, electricity, drainage, and toilet facilities. Social

problems such as unemployment, crime, alcoholism, and insecurity are also common in many slum settlements. Overall, the socio-economic condition of slum dwellers reflects urban poverty and inequality in Prayagraj.

- **Occupational Structure of Slum Dwellers:-**



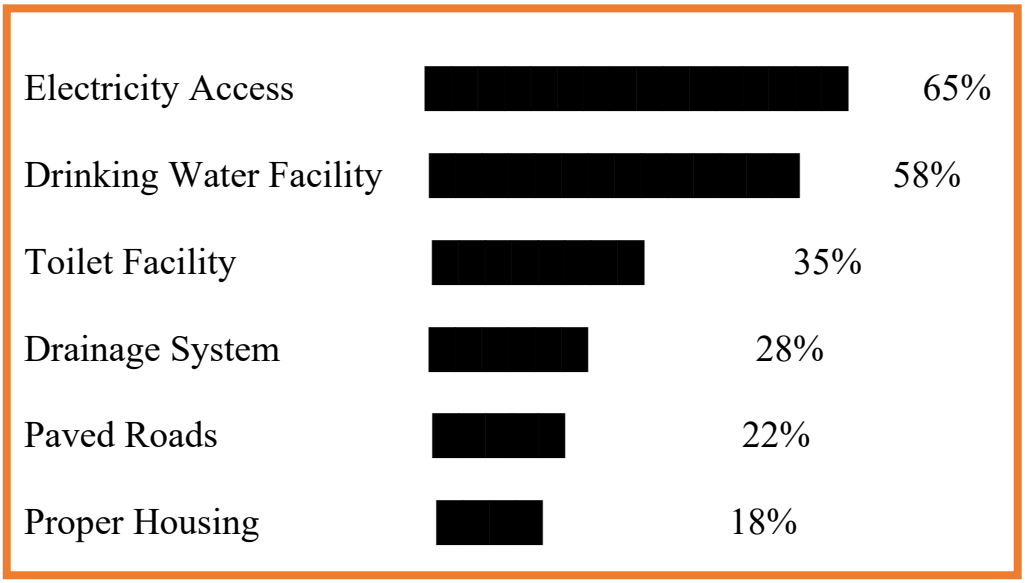
- **Major Problems Faced by Slum Dwellers :-**

Problem	Percentage
Poverty	35%
Unemployment	20%
Poor Sanitation	18%
Illiteracy	12%
Health Problems	10%
Lack of Housing	5%

10. Housing and Infrastructure Facilities

Housing and infrastructure facilities in the slum areas of Prayagraj are generally poor and inadequate. Most slum dwellers live in temporary or semi-permanent houses made of tin sheets, plastic, bamboo, mud, and other low-quality materials. The houses are usually overcrowded, poorly ventilated, and lack proper lighting and sanitation facilities. In many slum settlements, a single small room is occupied by an entire family, creating unhealthy living conditions.

Availability of Basic Facilities in Slums :-



The graph shows that basic urban facilities are insufficient in most slum areas.

There are also different types of structures of houses in slums areas. These are mention below:-

Housing Types in Slum Areas :-

Housing Type	Percentage
Temporary Houses (Tin/Plastic)	50%
Semi-Permanent Houses	30%
Mud Houses	12%
Permanent Houses	8%

Most slum dwellers live in temporary or semi-permanent houses.

Access to sanitation, drainage, and proper roads is very limited.

Poor infrastructure increases health risks and lowers the quality of life.

The data reflects inadequate urban planning and housing facilities in slum areas of Prayagraj.

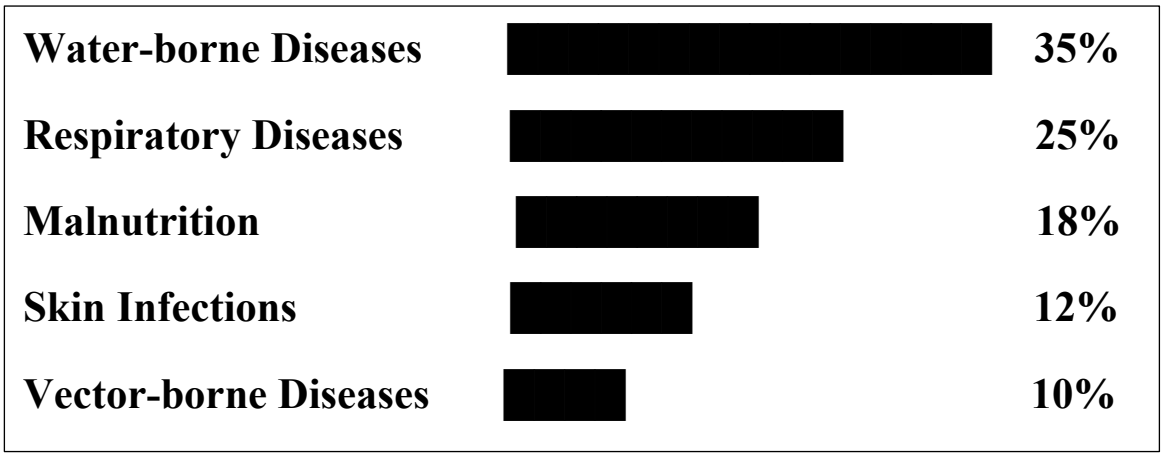
Basic infrastructure facilities such as clean drinking water, drainage systems, electricity, roads, and toilets are either insufficient or absent. Many residents depend on public taps, hand pumps, or shared water sources for daily needs. Open drains and waterlogging are common, especially during the rainy season, leading to unhygienic conditions and spread of diseases. Roads inside slum settlements are narrow, muddy, and poorly maintained. Although some government schemes have improved housing and sanitation in selected areas, the overall infrastructure remains below urban standards. These poor housing and infrastructure conditions reflect the socio-economic deprivation faced by slum dwellers in Prayagraj.

11. Health and Sanitation Conditions of Slums

The health and sanitation conditions in the slum areas of Prayagraj are generally poor and unhealthy. Most slums lack proper drainage systems, clean drinking water, waste disposal facilities, and hygienic toilets. Open drains, stagnant water, garbage accumulation, and overcrowded living conditions create an unhygienic environment that increases the spread of diseases. During the rainy season, waterlogging and flooding further worsen sanitation conditions in many slum settlements located near drains, railway lines, and riverbanks.

Slum dwellers are highly vulnerable to diseases such as malaria, dengue, diarrhoea, cholera, typhoid, skin infections, and respiratory illnesses. Malnutrition among children and women is also common due to poverty and lack of proper healthcare facilities. Many families depend on public taps, hand pumps, or contaminated water sources for drinking and domestic purposes. Access to government hospitals and medical services is limited because of financial difficulties and lack of awareness.

Major Health Problems in Slum Areas :-



Water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea and cholera are the most common due to unsafe water and poor sanitation.

- Poor sanitation directly affects the health of slum residents.
- Lack of drainage and waste management leads to disease outbreaks.
- Overcrowding and polluted surroundings increase health risks.
- Inadequate healthcare facilities further worsen living conditions in the slums of Prayagraj.

According to urban studies, poor sanitation and unsafe drinking water are among the major causes of health problems in Prayagraj slums. Inadequate healthcare infrastructure, overcrowding, and environmental pollution continue to affect the physical well-being and quality of life of slum residents.

12. Government Policies and Schemes

The government has introduced several policies and schemes to improve the living conditions of slum dwellers in Prayagraj. These schemes focus on housing, sanitation, health, drinking water, and urban infrastructure development. The main objective is to reduce urban poverty and provide better living conditions to people residing in slum settlements.

One of the most important schemes is Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, which aims to provide affordable housing for economically weaker sections. Under this scheme, eligible slum dwellers receive financial assistance for constructing permanent houses. Another important programme is Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, which focuses on improving sanitation facilities, construction of toilets, waste management, and promoting cleanliness in urban slum areas.

Major Government Schemes Benefiting Slums:-

The government has also implemented schemes such as the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM), which provides skill development and employment opportunities to poor urban residents. In some slum areas of Prayagraj, roads, drainage systems, street lights, and drinking water facilities have been improved through municipal development programmes.

The city of Prayagraj is getting ready for the 2025 Maha Kumbh. It is also planning for the future. The way things are done in Prayagraj has changed from removing slums to helping people who live in these areas. The government has started projects like the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Phase II. This project is building than 1,000 affordable flats in areas like Khuldabad and Peepal Gaon. The goal is to help people who live in the city become a part of it.

Despite these efforts, many slums still face problems such as overcrowding, poor sanitation, unemployment, and inadequate healthcare. Weak implementation, lack of awareness, population pressure, and limited financial resources often reduce the effectiveness of these schemes. Therefore, proper urban planning, community participation, and continuous monitoring are necessary for sustainable slum development in Prayagraj.

13. Problems, Suggestions and Conclusion

The slum areas of Prayagraj face numerous social, economic, environmental, and infrastructural problems. One of the major problems is poverty and unemployment, as most slum dwellers depend on irregular and low-income informal occupations such as daily wage labour, street vending, and rickshaw pulling. Poor housing conditions, overcrowding, and lack of basic facilities such as clean drinking water, toilets, drainage, electricity, and healthcare create unhealthy living conditions. Open drains, garbage accumulation, and polluted surroundings increase the spread of diseases like malaria, dengue, diarrhoea, and respiratory infections.

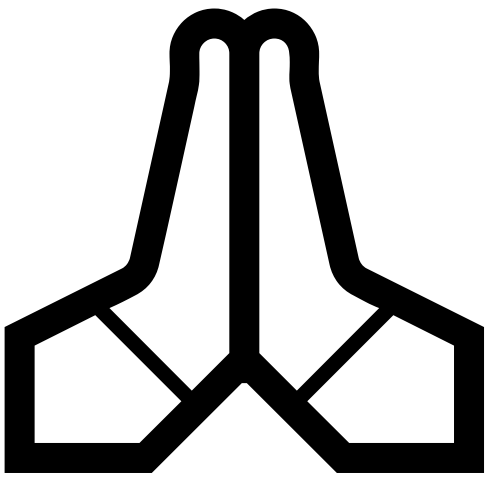
Another major issue is illiteracy and lack of educational opportunities, especially among children and women. Many children leave school early and engage in labour work because of financial difficulties. Environmental problems such as water pollution, flood risk near riverbanks, and encroachment on unsafe lands also affect the quality of life in slum settlements. Rapid urbanization and migration have further increased pressure on urban infrastructure and housing facilities.

To improve the condition of slum areas, proper urban planning and sustainable development strategies are necessary. The government should increase affordable housing projects, improve sanitation and drainage systems, provide safe drinking water, and strengthen healthcare services. Skill development programmes and employment opportunities should be expanded to reduce poverty. Awareness campaigns regarding hygiene, education, and environmental protection are also important. Community participation and effective implementation of government schemes can help achieve long-term improvement.

The study of slums in Prayagraj clearly shows that slums are not only a result of poverty but also a reflection of rapid urbanization, migration, social inequality, and inadequate urban planning. The increasing slum population indicates that the city's infrastructure and housing facilities have not developed at the same pace as population growth. Most slum settlements are concentrated in environmentally sensitive and poorly serviced areas such as riverbanks, railway corridors, drainage zones, and peripheral regions. These settlements suffer from inadequate housing, poor sanitation, unsafe drinking water, unemployment, illiteracy, and lack of healthcare facilities.

Despite several government schemes and development programmes, many slum areas still lack basic urban amenities. The problem cannot be solved only through temporary measures; instead, there is a need for long-term and sustainable urban planning. Inclusive development policies, affordable housing projects, improved sanitation, employment opportunities, and social awareness are essential for improving the quality of life of slum dwellers. Proper coordination between government agencies, urban planners, and local communities is also necessary.

Overall, slums in Prayagraj represent a major urban challenge as well as an important social reality of developing cities in India. Improving the living conditions of slum dwellers is essential not only for urban development but also for achieving social justice, economic equality, and sustainable city growth in the future.

In conclusion, slums in Prayagraj reflect urban poverty, inequality, and inadequate planning. Although several government programmes have been introduced, many challenges still remain. Sustainable urban development, inclusive policies, and improved infrastructure are essential for enhancing the living conditions and overall well-being of slum dwellers in Prayagraj.

Thank You